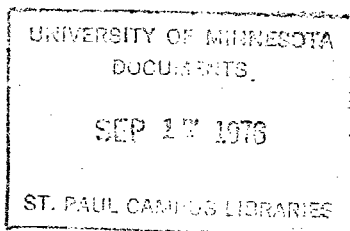


MAGR
GOVS
MN 2000 EP-137

MINNESOTA 1

AGRICULTURAL EXTENTION SERVICE 2

PAMPHLET 137 3



PRODUCE MORE MILK TO FILL THIS WELL

This archival publication may not reflect current scientific knowledge or recommendations.
Current information available from University of Minnesota Extension: <http://www.extension.umn.edu>

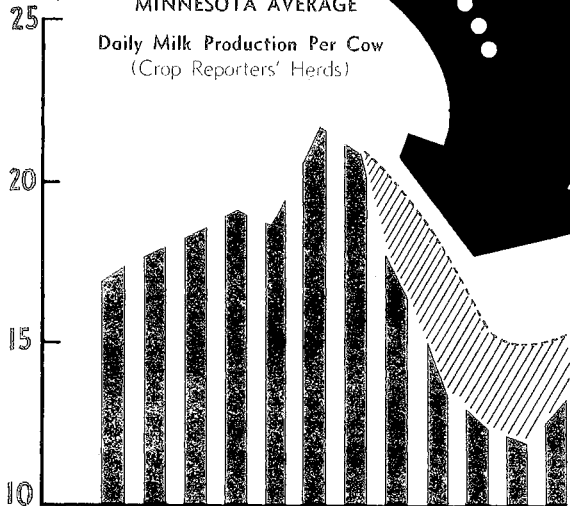
PRODUCE MORE MILK
to fill this well...

POUNDS
PER DAY

H. R. Searles

MINNESOTA AVERAGE

Daily Milk Production Per Cow
(Crop Reporters' Herds)



JAN. FEB. MAR. APR. MAY JUNE JULY AUG. SEPT. OCT. NOV. DEC.

Get the jump on
**MIDSUMMER
SLUMP!**



WHY WE HAVE A MIDSUMMER



SLUMP

- **HOT WEATHER**—Heat affects cows somewhat, especially when it is much over 80°.
- **FLIES**—Flies annoy the cows and some kinds interfere with grazing.
- **DRY COWS**—Summer milk output is reduced because of cows going dry and fewer cows freshening, but dry cows are not the main cause of the slump. In Minnesota there are twice as many dry cows in January as in July.

★ **SHORT PASTURE**—This is one of the *BIG CAUSES*. One-sixteenth of an acre a day is all a cow can graze, so unless there is 2,500 pounds of grass per acre, the cow cannot get the 120 pounds of grass she needs to have her fill.

★ **RIPE GRASS**—When grass becomes ripe it is no longer the nutritious high-protein feed of early summer. It is rather poor hay. Its value in milk production depends on how much fresh green grass is available with it.

WILL KEEP YOUR COWS *Milking Strong*

★ WHEN PASTURES GET SHORT

When pastures get shorter than 2 or 3 inches feed **LEGUME HAY** or **SILAGE**, preferably in the evening. Cows will graze better in the morning.

Cows producing milk will also need **GRAIN**. If there is considerable young grass, use mostly home-grown grain—corn, barley, or oats in any mixture.

Feed according to production—one-half to two-thirds of a winter ration. For Holstein, Brown

Swiss, and Shorthorn, one pound of grain to 6-8 pounds of milk. For Guernsey and Jersey, about one pound of grain to 4-6 pounds of milk.

★ B WHEN GRASS IS RIPE AND DRY

If pastures are plentiful, but the grass is headed and ripe, **FEED** amounts just recommended of a grain ration containing more protein. A good proportion would be 800 pounds grain and 200 pounds oil meal or dairy feed containing 32-34 per cent protein.

★ C WITH SUPPLEMENTAL PASTURE

If you have some supplemental pasture such as **SUDAN GRASS** or second crop **ALFALFA**, the problem is simple.

Only the high-producing cows will need **GRAIN**. Holsteins producing over 35 pounds or Guernseys over 25 pounds of milk daily will benefit by having a few pounds of home-grown grains.

Provide plenty of **WATER** and **SALT**.

FIT the Dry Cows for their winter job - GET RID of CULLS

Rest and Feed THE DRY COW



● A cow should have 2 months of rest a year. Less than 6 weeks cuts down her next lactation. More than 2 months takes more off the end of one lactation than she gains the next.

● A long period of stripping is not necessary. Check the breeding date and when it is time for her to go dry, stop milking her.

● A cow should gain weight the last few months of her lactation and freshen in good flesh. Whether she needs grain depends on her condition when dried off. GRAIN FED TO THE THIN DRY COW IS WORTH TWICE AS MUCH AS GRAIN FED AFTER FRESHENING. The same ration the other cows get will do. Four or 5 pounds of grain a day is not too much.

● Keep all breeding dates. They tell when cows need to be dried off.

Other THINGS TO DO...

★ **CULL**—The best time to sell a cull cow is when she first quits paying for feed and labor. Don't let cull cows go down in flesh and value on short pasture or eat feed that the other cows could turn into milk. Rid the herd of old cows, cows with damaged udders, and dry cows not in calf. This is no time to struggle with a hard, slow milker.

★ **SAVE LABOR**—Save time and labor by stripping with the machine. Practice fast milking (Folder 119) and fast washing (wash all milk utensils at once with a wetting agent).

● Use oil fly sprays sparingly in hot weather. A coat of oil makes the cow still hotter.

● Prevent waste of milk. Keep the milk clean and cool it in running well water.

Extension Pamphlet 137

June 1944

UNIVERSITY FARM, ST. PAUL 8, MINNESOTA

Cooperative Extension Work in Agriculture and Home Economics, University of Minnesota, Agricultural Extension Division and United States Department of Agriculture Cooperating, Paul E. Miller, Director. Published in furtherance of Agricultural Extension Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914. 200M-6-44

★ 1944 FOOD PRODUCTION PROGRAM SERIES

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Agricultural Extension Service

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA



3 1951 D03 470615 W